February 2006 Volume 5, Issue 1

The Urban Link

Newsletter of the Institute of Urban Studies
http://ius.uwinnipeg.ca

Director's Note

Dr. Jino Distasio, Director

After two plus years of "acting" as Director, I have officially been given the mandate to direct. I look forward to setting a course for the Institute that will see us move forward in research, teaching and community engagement. Continuing to strengthen our research capabilities will be a key goal, as will broadening the reach of our flagship publication *The Canadian Journal of Urban Research*.

In the coming weeks we will be adding a new information dissemination tool, the IUS Community Link. This will be a controlled listserv that will build on the terrific work done by Anita Friesen over the past few years, under the Winnipeg Inner City Research Alliance. Essentially, this new listserv will disseminate a broad range of material including publications and reports, information about conferences and events and local news and issues. The Community Link will be fed by subscribers passing on important information to our team who will then send it on. We hope to continue to have more than 1000 persons on the list so please check our website in the coming weeks for information on becoming a part of this service.

The Community Link will also enhance dissemination efforts already underway at the Institute that include our website, *The CityStates* blog and publications program. To ensure that our website and research are more readily accessible, we are also in the midst of redesign. This will allow visitors to access the dozens of full text reports and research highlights produced by the Institute and WIRA researchers. We are also proud to showcase the great work of students in our annual competition; our most recent winner was Katie

Director's Note continues on page 2...

IN THIS ISSUE

Director's Note	1
Work on Recent Projects	2
What's New at IUS?	3
IUS Staff At Large	4
Durham England	5
Canada Research Chair in Urban Change and Adaptation	7
IUS Library	8
Canadian Journal of Urban Research	9
Winnipeg Inner-city Research Alliance	10
CU Expo	11

The Urban Link is published by the Institute of Urban Studies. The newsletter disseminates information about the Institute of Urban Studies and major initiatives housed at the Institute. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those held by the Institute of Urban Studies or the University of Winnipeg. The Urban Link is co-edited by Michael Dudley and Michelle Swanson. Contributions are welcomed on an ongoing basis. Please contact Michael Dudley at (204) 982-1140 or m.dudley@uwinnipeg.ca.
©Institute of Urban Studies, 2005

Institute of Urban Studies
Suite 103-520 PortageAvenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3C 0G2
tel. (204) 982-1140
fax (204) 943-4695
E-mail: ius@uwinnipeg.ca

2008-02366/

Director's Note ...cont'd from page 1

Anderson, for her paper titled *Physical Activity and the Inner City: The Case of West Central Neighbourhood* **(see page 4).**

The Institute is also positioned to become more involved with teaching as the University of Winnipeg, and is assisting in the development an exciting interdisciplinary major, the **Urban and Inner Cities Program**. Combined with ongoing research projects and key events, the coming year is going to be one highlighted by a number of new initiatives! We also look forward to a strong and collaborative relationship with the Centre for Sustainable Transportation which will be sharing our space.

In closing, I look forward to taking on the challenges of this most exciting position and being able to assist in the direction of a great staff and organization.

Work on Recent Projects

Public Transportation in Steinbach, Manitoba: A Feasibility Study

Since the beginning of June 2005, members of the IUS have been researching the feasibility of public transportation in Steinbach. Throughout the project, the researchers examined transportation from a larger context of sustainable transportation principles, which led them to four different case studies. Two of the researchers went to Airdrie Alberta to investigate their recently-implemented fixed-route bus service. On January 19th, IUS staff presented initial findings to a a well-attended public meeting in Steinbach. The team is in the final stages of producing the report for the Steinbach Transportation Project Steering Committee.

Downtown Indicators

In June 2005, the Portage Avenue Planning Group approached the Institute of Urban Studies to create an indicators report for the downtown area. Key features of study will include economic and residential growth and quality of life issues. The report card has the potential to become an annual report to document the general trends in, and citizen perceptions of, Winnipeg's downtown. The draft list of indicators is presently in the hands of the stakeholders, awaiting final consultation and approval.

Home is Where the Heart is...and Right Now That is Nowhere: An Examination of Hidden Homelessness Among Aboriginal Peoples in Prairie Cities

This research examined hidden homelessness among Aboriginal persons in Prairie cities. In particular, data were gathered in Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Regina that focused on better understanding the shelter circumstances of persons precariously housed in tenuous situations, including those who lived temporarily with friends or family or those who resided in any number of short term accommodations such as shelters, rooming houses or hotels.
Expected Completion Date: February 2006.

Work on Recent Projects ...continues on page 3

Work on Recent Projects ...cont'd from page 2

Structural Causes of Housing Distress in Winnipeg

On behalf of the National Secretariat on Homelessness, IUS is researching structural causes of homelessness in Winnipeg, with an emphasis on the municipal and provincial policy contexts. The research will involve focus groups with persons in housing distress as well as interviews with frontline staff and policymakers. This project is being undertaken in cooperation with Siloam Mission, Neeginan Emergency Shelter and Winnipeg Harvest. Completion Date: March 2006

Profile of the Working Poor: A Housing Perspective

In partnership with Social Housing Strategists Inc. and The Rural and Small Town Programme at Mt. Allison University, IUS is conducting research for Canada Mortgage and Housing that seeks a basis for redefining the experience of the "working poor" in this country in terms of housing and housing-related costs.
Completion Date: Summer 2006

What's New at IUS

The Centre for Sustainable Transportation at the University of Winnipeg

By Al Cormier

The Centre for Sustainable was established in the Toronto Region in the mid-90's and has operated since then in the area of long range transportation policy research.

The Mission of The Centre for Sustainable Transportation is to work proactively in achieving the sustainable transportation of persons and goods in Canada through co-operative partnerships, relevant and timely research; projects; the communication and dissemination of balanced information; and the monitoring and supporting of sustainable transportation activities.

In 2005, the Centre accepted a joint proposal from the Manitoba Department of Transportation and Government Services and the University of Winnipeg to bring the Centre to Winnipeg, within the university itself. Both organizations committed to funding support for 5 years.

This move to Winnipeg promises to be a wonderful opportunity for the Centre to prosper as part of a thriving and innovative university led by a President who understands sustainable development principles. The Centre will also benefit from its expected close relationship with the Institute of Urban Studies.

A search is now underway for a new Executive Director for the Centre and an appointment is expected in late March.

What's New at IUS ...continues on page 4

What's New at IUS ...cont'd from page 3

Institute of Urban Studies (IUS) Student Paper Award Winner 2005

Katie Anderson is the recipient of the IUS 2005 Student Paper Award. Her paper *Physical Activity and the Inner City: The Case of West Central Neighbourhood* describes a community universitypartnership project that provided benefits for the local community and enhanced the student's knowledge of program development. For several months, the author volunteered her time collecting data from residents in the community to use as a tool for developing activity projects under the Healthy Living Program.

The Institute of Urban Studies Blog — blog.uwinnipeg.ca/ius

Since we first started blogging in March 2005, IUS has posted over 100 stories which have collectively received over 3,000 hits. The IUS blog is also linked to the PLANETizen "Radar" feature (http://www.planetizen.com/radar/), giving our stories a very wide audience in the City Planning community. If you would like to receive an email notification when new stories are posted, please email Michael Dudley at m.dudley@uwinnipeg.ca.

The Institute of Urban Studies Blog is your gateway to current commentary, news and Internet resources concerning urban issues, be they local or global.

IUS Staff "At Large"

This has been a particularly busy year for staff involvement in outside commitments. Dr. Distasio was a Committee member on the:

- City of Winnipeg's Zoning Advisory committee
- City of Winnipeg Rapid Transit Task Force
- United Way's Aboriginal Strategy Council
- University of Winnipeg's Sustainability Taskforce
- University of Winnipeg's Spence Street Steering Committee
- Appointed to the board of directors of the Centre for Sustainable Transportation (CST) as Treasurer (for more on the CST see page 3)

Teaching: University of Manitoba, Faculty of Architecture

Dr. Distasio and Michael Dudley have both been appointed as adjunct faculty to the Department of City Planning (see http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/cp/Pages/stufac.html)

Dr. Distasio is currently teaching the City Planning graduate course, 073.707 Housing and Urban Revitalization.

Michael Dudley has taught two courses at the Faculty of Architecture:
Fall term: History of the City 79.334

Winter: Environment & Behaviour, 79.261
This term the students will be concentrating on a film analysis – reviewing popular film through the lens of course theory. For more information, see the American Psychological Association Division 34 homepage: http://www.cas.ucf.edu/psychology/APA34/members_pedagogy.php

Durham England: Medieval Urbanism for the 21st Century
By Michael Dudley

When contemplating solutions to contemporary urban planning problems, we in North America are often encouraged by urban thinkers to look to European cities for innovations for ideas. This past fall, I had an opportunity to learn first-hand the soundness of this advice. I attended a conference in the north-east English city of Durham (2001 pop: 42,939), which is home not only to a massive Norman-era cathedral, but also a castle built by William the Conqueror. While the cathedral is simply breathtaking (for the barest of tastes see http://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/) it was the urban form and character of the City of Durham itself that I found particularly compelling; for here is a city that is essentially a thousand years old, and yet is a vibrant, lively and livable city that is very much at home in the 21st Century.

The most obvious indication of the medieval origins of the city is in its street pattern: it is highly organic and has maintained its narrow, cobblestoned character even as its storefronts burst with cellphone dealers and other busy retailers. The streets meander around and over the curves in the river valley, enticing the pedestrian with a level of complexity and mystery I had never encountered before in a city. While the street pattern at first seemed confusing to me, within a few days I was quite confident in my ability to wayfind my way on foot over most of the city.

The shopping district downtown is filled with pedestrians, and cars are highly restricted. The University of Durham is spread throughout the city (some lucky students actually get to live in the castle) so the omnipresence of young people downtown is truly energizing. And while it was exciting to see 1,000-year old buildings still being used for restaurants and shops, what struck me most were the number of very *recent* buildings that had been inserted into the medieval townscape. For instance, a large section of the downtown is taken up by the six-year old Prince Bishops Shopping Centre, which mimics the medieval character in terms of streetscape and vernacular architecture so faithfully that it blends almost seamlessly (see below).

Similarly, there is a large enclosed shopping mall that, from the inside, looks like every other mall I've ever been in, yet from the outside is almost indistinguishable from the rest of the ancient city (see next page).

Of course, the sheer density of the urban fabric was also striking, with most houses and shops built almost exclusively directly adjacent to others with little space for landscaping; yet the overall effect is one of charm and, given the constant pedestrian activity, safety. This was especially

apparent when traversing extremely dark and narrow alleys and staircases that would hardly be approved for human habitation in North America, or if they already existed, would be fenced off for fear of assault—and yet they led to shops and cafes, all of them hopping with customers. The experience left me questioning some of our North American assumptions about what is possible in urban design.

More than that, though, it had me questioning the extent to which our North American "social contract" is still healthy and functioning: for here in Durham, where conventional concessions to territoriality are so minimal (most residential doorways open directly onto the sidewalk), and where every available scrap of urban land is used no matter how conventionally foreboding, the city *works*. People fill the streets and take pleasure in its complexities, its antiquity, and, I suspect, its crowds. It made me realize, sadly, that in all my years of city living, this was the first time I had truly experienced *urbanism*.

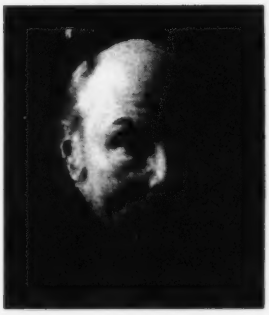
For more on Durham, see http://www.durhamtourism.co.uk/home.html

---

Michael Dudley attended the Durham Urbicide Workshop: "The Killing of Cities." (see http://www.geography.dur.ac.uk/conf/urbicideworkshop/Sessions/tabid/838/Default.aspx) in Durham, England, November 24th and 25th. The workshop explored the forces threatening the contemporary city, including war, terrorism, forced relocations and containment, and insensitive development. Dudley's paper, "Revisiting Cold War Ideology in the Secure City" questions the extent to which contemporary plans to prevent and cope with terrorist attacks in the urban environment are reasonable, or merely rhetorical devices that serve the interests of neo-conservative and imperial ideologies. Selected conference papers will be published in a special issue of a scholarly journal to be named in the near future.

The University of Winnipeg,
the Centre for Sustainable Transportation and
the Institute of Urban Studies
present

When Energy Demand Exceeds Supply: Impacts on Transportation and Cities



A Symposium
and free public lecture featuring
James Howard Kunstler, author of "The Long Emergency"

Winnipeg Art Gallery, Brio Hall & Auditorium
300 Memorial Boulevard, Winnipeg, MB
Wednesday April 19, 2006

INSTITUTE OF URBAN STUDIES

The Centre for Sustainable Transportation / Le Centre sur un transport durable

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

For more information and the registration form, please see ius.uwinnipeg.ca

Canada Research Chair in Urban Change and Adaptation

Canada Research Chair Report

Tom Carter and Chesya Polevychok have just completed a report entitled *Understanding Disinvestment and Decline*. This report examines in considerable detail the many theories postulated to explain urban decline. The discussion in the report contributes to a better understanding of the interaction of, and interdependence of neighbourhood, city wide, national and international influences, and both macro and micro level processes that contribute to disinvestment and decline in urban areas. This document is a companion piece to an earlier publication entitled *Comprehensive Neighbourhood Studies: Characterizing Decline*. Combined, these two documents are an excellent resource for students, researchers and policy analyst who wish to develop a better understanding of the neighbourhood decline so common in many North American cities. Although the focus is North American cities, material from Britain, Australia and other countries is included.

Tom Carter recently returned from Accra, Ghana where he participated in a series of workshops focusing on HIV/AIDS prevention in Africa. Tom is a member of a team of people from Winnipeg and Kampala, Uganda who have developed a partnership to undertake a project in Kampala. The project objectives include improvement of local government processes in Kampala as they relate to the delivery of HIV/AIDS services and development of a community needs assessment model to identify the need for services at the neighbourhood level. The project is being conducted under the auspices of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Partnership Program and is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency. Work was initiated by a trip to Kampala in February/March 2005 and will continue with a visit to Winnipeg by the Kampala Team in Spring 2006 and return visits to Kampala.

Tom, Chesya, Kurt Sargent and Fawad Abbas have been working with the City of Winnipeg to develop a detailed, longitudinal database for the various neighbourhood characterization areas in the City. The data will be used for various research initiatives to identify key aspects of neighbourhood change, changing service and program needs and indications of decline and revitalization.

Reports and other background documents produced by the Canada Research Chair in Urban Change and Adaptation are available on the CRC website:

http://ius.uwinnipeg.ca/CRC/crc_aboutus_overview.htm

Canada Research Chair in Urban Change and Adaptation

103 - 520 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0G2
Tel: 204-982-1140
Fax: 204-943-4695
http://www.chairs.gc.ca
http://ius.uwinnipeg.ca

Institute of Urban Studies
The University of Winnipeg

IUS Library

Library News

Focus on Urban Redevelopment

Gotham, Kevin Fox. *Critical Perspectives on Urban Redevelopment*. Research in Urban Sociology. 1st ed. Vol. 6. Amsterdam ; New York: Jai, 2001.

As the pain over the recent destruction of much of New Orleans evolves into highly-charged controversies over how best to rebuild the city (many of them putting race and class at the forefront), it is worth noting a relatively recent publication that takes a critical scholarly look at urban redevelopment—a process that David Harvey has termed "creative destruction" engaged in by powerful forces in the political economy. Editor Kevin Fox Gotham has assembled a fascinating collection of chapters that take an urban sociological perspective on the subject. Gotham points out that early sociologists—mostly of the Chicago School—conceptualized urban change in terms of internal social processes while ignoring macro effects, and that dissatisfaction with these ideas led to the development of Marxist and political economy approaches that sought to identify the influence of political and economic actors. The present volume tackles such questions as,

> What impact have global level changes had...? How are these changes related to race, class and gender? What ideologies, themes symbols and motifs undergird current !and past redevelopment strategies? What forms of conflict, opposition and collective mobilization have occurred in response to local redevelopment efforts? (p. 4).

Topics in the volume include: the incorporation of the ruins of de-industrialized America into new development; the role of the criminalization of homelessness in new development; historic preservation, gentrification and tourism; conflicts over the influence of devolution and privatization on public housing (interestingly, in New Orleans); the City as "Entertainment Machine" (an obvious riff on Logan and Molotch's "Growth Machine"); and the "Disneyfication" of Times Square. Editor Gotham then concludes the book by tackling the major question underlying the whole volume: Urban redevelopment for whom? For what purpose?

As we are seeing in New Orleans, this question looms large: There are serious concerns that urban elites are using the disaster as an opportunity to "ethnically cleanse" the city of its largely poor and black former residents (see Mike Davis' "Gentrifying Disaster", ZNet, October 25th 2005, at www.zmag.org). Critical Perspectives on Urban Redevelopment is a timely and important work that will likely become a standard text.

Note: This title is held in the Reference collection (not for circulation).

From the Shelves– New at the IUS Library

Selected New Arrivals

Bridgman, Rae. *Safe Haven : The Story of a Shelter for Homeless Women*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2002.

Burchell, Robert W. *Sprawl Costs : Economic Impacts of Unchecked Development*. Washington: Island Press, 2005.

Clark, T. *Challenging McWorld*. Ottawa: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, 2001.

Foner, N. Wounded city: The social impact of 9/11. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2005.

Irazábal, Clara. *City Making and Urban Governance in the Americas : Curitiba and Portland*. Design and the Built Environment Series. Aldershot, Hants, England ; Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2005.

Jakle, John A., and Keith A. Sculle. *Lots of Parking : Land use in a Car Culture*. 1st pbk. ed. Charlottesville, Va.: University of Virginia Press, 2005.

Miles, Malcolm, and Tim Hall. *Urban Futures : Critical Commentaries on Shaping the City*. London: Routledge, 2003.

Parker, Simon. *Urban Theory & the Urban Experience : Encountering the City*. London ; New York: Routledge, 2004,

Shoup, Donald C., and American Planning Association. *The High Cost of Free Parking*. Chicago, Ill.: Planners Press, American Planning Association, 2005.

Simone, A. M., and Abouhani Abdelghani. *Urban Africa : Changing Contours of Survival in the City. Africa in the New Millennium*. London: Zed Books, 2005.

Staffing

Fawad Abbas joined Institute of Urban Studies during Fall 2005 and is thrilled to be a part of IUS. Presently, he is taking courses in Computer Science, Economics, and Geography with research interest in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics. He is also working with Canada Research Chair, Dr. Tom Carter, on various projects providing database solution.

NEW: Journals and Magazines!
Periodical titles at the Institute of Urban Studies are now listed in the U of W online catalogue. For a complete list, enter "Cities and towns - periodicals" as a subject term. Please note that periodicals at IUS do not circulate.

IUS Library Hours Mon to Fri, 8:30am to 4:30pm.

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF URBAN RESEARCH

Revue canadienne de recherche urbaine

Volume 14, Issue 2, Winter 2005

Contents

Articles

Urban Design Decision-Making: A Study Of Ontario Municipal Board Decisions In Toronto
Sandeep Kumar 209

Understanding The University-Community Alliance: The Waterloo Experience
Jeff Lederer and Mark Seasons 237

Le logement communautaire à Montéal: satisfaction résidentielle et insertion socio-spatiale
Richard Morin, Marie J. Bouchard, Winnie Frohn, Paul Bodson and Nathalie Chicoine 261

Citizen Decision-Making In Socially Sensitive Housing Processes: A Case Study Of Kitchener Canada
Geeta Vaidyanathan and Susan Wismer 286

Changes In Aboriginal Settlement Patterns In Two Canadian Cities: A Comparison To Immigrant Settlement Models
Evelyn J. Peters and Oksana M. Starchenko 315

Ethnicity, Immigration And Housing Wealth in Toronto
Stephen Obeng Gyimah, David Walters and Kelli L. Phythian 338

Auto-Dependent Induced Shopping: Exploring the Relationship Between Power Centre Morphology and Consumer Spatial Behaviour
Brian Lorch 364

Research Note

The Organization of Municipal Councils in Ontario: A Research Note
Mark Sproule-Jones and Chris Becker 384

To Subscribe:

Institute of Urban Studies, 103-520 Portage Avenue,
Winnipeg MB, Canada R3C 0G2
Phone: 204-982-1150 Fax: 204-943-4695
Email: ius.uwinnipeg.ca

2006 Subscription Rates

Individual $45.00 Organizations $70.00 Student/Retired $25.00

Cheques or money orders should be made out to: THE INSTITUTE OF URBAN STUDIES.
All orders must be prepaid. Canadian subscriptions must be paid in Canadian funds.
Outside Canada subscriptions must be paid in US funds.
Prices include GST, where applicable (GST Registration #R108162645)

Winnipeg Inner-City Research Alliance (WIRA)

Updates on Community-based Research

By Anita Friesen, Community Liaison Director

NEW WIRA RESEARCH REPORTS

The following reports are now available on the WIRA website:

There are No Banks Here": Financial & Insurance Exclusion in Winnipeg's North End
Jerry Buckland & Bruce Guenther with Georgi Boichey, Heather Geddie & Maryanne Mutch

Transportation and Affordable Homeownership: A Feasibility Study of "Transportation-Savings Mortgages"
Michael Dudley, Molly Johnson, Trevor Johnson and James Platt with Mona Forsen and Peter Squire

Enhancing Cultural Capital: The Arts and Community Development in Winnipeg
Michelle Kuly and Etoile Stewart, Michael Dudley with Jason Granger

Rooming House Tenant and Landlord Cooperation: a Pilot Project
Jino Distasio, Inonge Aliaga, Karen Giesbrecht

For these and other full reports plus details about WIRA research projects, visit: http://ius.uwinnipeg.ca/wira_research_projects

COMING IN SUMMER 2006!

Summer 2006 will be a Special Issue of the Canadian Journal of Urban Research that will feature WIRA research projects. Due to hit the newsstands in early August.

WINNIPEG INNER CITY RESEARCH ALLIANCE
Institute of Urban Studies
Suite 103 – 520 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 0G2
http://ius.uwinnipeg.ca/

Research Liaison Director
Tom Carter
Phone (204) 982-1148
t.carter@uwinnipeg.ca

Community Liaison Director
Anita Friesen
Phone (204) 982-1152
a.friesen@uwinnipeg.ca

CUexpo 2005

Community-University Research Partnerships: Leaders in Urban Change

September 15-18th, 2005 | Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada | Delta Hotel, downtown Winnipeg

From September 15-18, 2005 the Winnipeg Inner City Research Alliance hosted CUexpo2005 Community-University Research Partnerships: Leaders in Urban Change. The conference sought to strengthen the understanding of, and support for, action–oriented research initiatives involving collaboration between University and community partners.

Approximately 300 people attended from across Canada, the United States, and as far away as the Philippines, Germany, the Netherlands, and Australia. They came together at the Delta Hotel in downtown Winnipeg with a common purpose: to share their ideas and experience in building research partnerships involving academics and community. The conference events included breakout sessions, panel sessions, featured speakers, fieldtrips, plus other activities, all focused on urban themes.

Thanks to the efforts of all of the fabulous delegates, volunteers, presenters, panelists, entertainers, featured speakers, sponsors and exhibitors, the conference was a great success!

The CUexpo2005 Final Report includes background information about the conference, its approach, and an overview of the events. Also included is a section detailing the achievement of goals, description of spin-off benefits and happenings related to the conference, plus feedback comments.

The conference final report is available at http://cuexpo.uwinnipeg.ca/cuexpofinalreport.pdf